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ncis P. Jones, Editor Wallace C. Merwin, Executive Secretary

STER SERVICES

The Hsinhua News Agency likes to report Christmas and Easter celebrations, as an evi-ce that there is freedom of religion in China. An April 6 dispatch from Peking reads as fol-s: "Sunrise services for Easter Sunday were held by Protestants and Catholics in Shanghai Canton today.

"Despite the rain, worshippers streamed to the Community Church, Saint Ignatz and er churches and chapels in Shanghai. Father Chen Fu-min, who officiated at high mass, de-red a sermon on the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, and the congregation sang hymns. emonies of infant consecration, enrolment and baptism also took place during the service.

"In Canton, about 7000 Protestants and Catholics held sunrise, communion and other ser-es at the Tungshan Theological Seminary and various churches. Since last Thursday, the 60 estant and Catholic churches in Canton have observed Easter with various services and pag-ts depicting the resurrection."

NSECRATION OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

The two new bishops for Hankow and Wuchang, referred to in the last Bulletin, were ially consecrated on April 13 "with all the ceremony of this Catholic rite", according to a hua news report of that date.

Officiating at the ceremony in the Shanghai Road Catholic Church, Bishop Li Tao-nan of hi consecrated Tung Kuang-ching and Yuan Wen-hua. He was assisted by Bishop Wang Hsueh-g from Inner Mongolia, Bishop Louis Li from Shensi, Bishop Franciscus Yi from the Hsiang-g Diocese of Hupei and Administrator Apostolicus Chen Kuang-tsu from the Suihsien Diocese, ei. (Does the fact that all these bishops came from so far away indicate that the nearer ops all refused to participate?) About a thousand Catholic laity and priests and priests' dele-s from 21 provinces and cities in China attended the consecration ceremony, "the first ever ormed by Chinese bishops independently since Catholicism came to China more than 300 rs ago."

The Vatican, in communications dated March 26 and 29, had already refused to confirm election of these two men, and had threatened to excommunicate not only the bishops-elect also any bishops taking part in the consecration ceremony. In reply, a Catholic mass meet-in Wuhan on April 9 rejected the decision of the Vatican as invalid, and decided to go ad with the consecration ceremony anyhow. They stated, "Chinese Catholics will never ept such orders and decrees from Rome. They are political intrigues in the cloak of religion,

ued bi-weekly to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. ormation from Chinese church magazines and other Chinese sources is passed on as objec-ely as possible, with a minimum of interpretation. When interpretation is necessary, it is en-osed in parentheses as the comment of the editor. ANNUAL RATES: Domestic, $2.00; Over-s, Firstclass $4.00, Secondclass $3.00. Airmail $5.00 in 15¢ zone, $7.00 in 25¢ zone.

attempting to make Chinese Catholics take a stand against their motherland and the interests o their church."

In the meantime the organization of Patriotic Associations is proceeding, and they have now been formed on the provincial level in Hopei, Shantung, Chekiang, Kiangsu, Fukien, Anhwei, Szechuan, Shansi and Hupeh and in the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia.

Opposition however remains very strong. Among those reported by Hsinhua as opposing t Patriotic Associations are Bishop Fan Hio-yen of Paoting, Vicar Capitular Chang Chen-kuo of Szepingkai, Kirin, Vicar Capitular Liu Kien of Sichang, Szechuan, Vicar General Wang Kou- of Kiating, Father Wang Ko-kien of Hangchow and layman Tsu Kong-hsia of Shanghai. As Hsinhua News Agency says, "All these elements were servile in their defense of the reactionar position of the Vatican."

NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS

The third National Youth Congress opened in Peking on April 9 with 600 delegates in at- tendance from all parts of China. According to Hsinhua, "delegates, including 100 young wo en, represent youth of all the nationalities in China, of various social strata, different trades and various religious beliefs." The purpose of the Congress was to discuss the role of the youn people in "the high tide of socialist construction." It is reported that a Christian delegate ad dressed the Congress on April 11, but we are not told what he said.

The constitutional guarantee of freedom of religious belief required that they should in- clude a Christian delegate and listen to him speak, but not that they should take him very seri ously. One of the announced topics for discussion was, "The Religious Beliefs of Chinese You and How to Eradicate Them through Training in Marxism-Leninism."

A VISIT TO SHANGHAI

John Holland, a special correspondent of the Daily Herald, London, with 20 years exper ence in the Far East, and apparently with residence now in Japan (he is married to a Japanese wife), spent four days in Shanghai recently during a "sea trip 'working' vacation", and report on what he saw in the English edition of The Mainichi for January 5 and 7. He knew the old Shanghai well, though not, it must be said, the side with which missionaries were familiar, a so was in a position to interpret the present in terms of the past.

His standpoint is perhaps best indicated by an opening sentence. "This great city has donned the garments of a second-class undertaker in a third-class funeral parlour, primly pre- siding over the final formalities for the lately dead."

His first impression of a radical change was in the startling silence for a city of six milli people. The clang of traffic, the babel of voices, all seem to have been stilled. There are throngs of office-workers on the streets at rush hours, for the business community has gone - ir revocably. Of Nanking Road he remarks on the shuttered shops, padlocked and grimy. All th money-changer shops on Szechuan Road have gone.

He also refers to the "remarkable absence of police, soldiery, armed guards and watch- men. Nowhere did I see a patrol, either on foot or in vehicles." This to him is an indicatio of the "disciplined" life that has come to Shanghai.

One reason for the sparsity of people on the streets is the dispersal of various businesses. Communist planning has, for example, taken the 100 textile shops that formerly were bunche together and scattered them throughout the city, so that one does not need to go long distance either to work or to shop. That means that business can be quite good, even if the streets giv an appearance of great leisureliness. He found one of the large silk stores - Lao Kai Fook, or Nanking Road - doing a good business. The manager told him, "More people have now got money to buy with," and he saw enough customers while there to make this credible.

Sun Ya Restaurant is still open on Nanking Road, and he dined sumptuously there on Pek Duck, Crabs, and all the other delectable dishes they offer, at a price of JMP$10.25 (about U $4.00) for a party of four, and that price covered wine and beer which I never used to order

en I went there!

He used a pedicab for two hours on Avenue Joffre, looking for old friends, most of whom he not find. He gave his driver JMP$2.00, and the latter insisted on going into a shop and get- g 50¢ change to give him. However, he found later that these drivers are still human. On his t day he used a pedicab for half a day, and then on his way back to the wharf the driver stopped ore they got there and said, "I know you want to tip me well, so please do it now because it l make all the other boys jealous if you do it in front of them at the wharf."

His ship brought to Shanghai 1,000 tons of foodstuffs (including 10 tons of peeled prawns, ich means "an awful lot of peeling"), and alongside of them at the wharf was a Swedish ship ing on 10,000 tons of foodstuffs for Europe.

He found the people very friendly, and was sure this was not because they were mistaking n for a Russian. As far as he could see, there was also a sense of relaxation and freedom. He es that many of the former fears, especially those connected with economic insecurity, have appeared. "But on close observation, I failed to find any noticeable signs of a replacement them. The people look neither cowed nor brow-beaten, stood-over nor pushed around."

A theme running through his whole report is that of the tremendous number of purges that st have taken place to make such radical changes in a big city. The title of his articles is anghai - City of the Lately Dead," and that phrase, the Lately Dead, recurs again and again. ne of the purgees he cannot feel sorry over, but many he thinks of as "good" men and women, so he ends his account with "One cannot help leave.... with a rolling tear for the lately d."

SSIONARY NEWS

Recent deaths: First President of Ginling College Mrs. Matilda Calder Thurston in Auburn- e, Mass., on April 18 at the age of 82; Mrs. (Dr.) Frank Gale, formerly Methodist missionary Nanking and in Nanchang, in Bakersfield, California, on March 27; Mrs. E. J. Stuckey, for- rly of the London Mission in Peking, in Australia on April 8 (Dr. Stuckey died about two years . Eldest daughter Nancy is Mrs. Ralph Lapwood, - long time readers will remember that the wood letters were important sources of Peking news for this Bulletin in 1951 and 1952. Of the er children Helen is head of a training college and James a mission board secretary, both for sbyterian Church in Australia.); Mrs. George C. Hood, formerly of the Presbyterian (USA) sion in Nanhsuchow, in Cincinnati on April 15.

URCH NEWS

Religious News Service in Hong Kong has seen a copy of the Kansu Daily, published in Lan- w, in which a conference of local Protestant representatives under Communist sponsorship was orted on. Kuo Hsi-tien and Liu Yan-han were both under attack in this conference, the former accusing the Communist Party of persecuting religion, and the latter for sabotaging the Three- Movement. Liu is said to have worked formerly in a Baptist Church in Liuchow, Kwangsi. newspaper said that he replied to the charges by "viciously attacking the Party, spreading e anti-Communist, anti-people poison, abusing the national flag, denouncing the anti- nterrevolutionary campaign, and branding the Party's policy on religion as false."

Leslie Lyall, author of the John Sung biography, has a statement in the May Millions en- d "Mainland Chinese Maintain Testimony." Much of the material was evidently taken from Bulletin, but the following paragraph seems to have come from some independent source:

"Near Shanghai, in an area where there are 700 Christians, the 14 churches are still closed. God has raised up a simple country woman to teach the Word of God. Christians travel many es to attend the Bible study services, so much so that the authorities grew suspicious and cross- mined the woman. She guaranteed that, far from doing less work, the Christians would ac- plish much more as a result of their understanding the Bible. A book on the Lord's return and llation of Bible promises, Words of Comfort, have been in great demand there. A demon was out, with the result that three members of the afflicted woman's family have come to the ."

In the March 24 Bulletin we referred in Catholic News to the two priests in Paoting who were denounced as rightists along with Bishop Joseph Fan. These two were Fathers Ma Chang-je and Kuo Hao-hsin. Father Ma was denounced for saying that the Communist Party was hated by the people, for refusing to join the patriotic association or take part in campaigns against counter-revolutionaries, saying that he would have to follow the Vatican in such cases. Father Kuo had denounced the patriotic association, saying it was "an organization formed by bad people." In a sermon he said, "The government has its constitution; I have the canons of the Church."

The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (mother house Paterson, N.J.) have been working in Kaohsiung, South Formosa, since being forced to leave the mainlan nine years ago. The group is composed of 12 Western and 18 Chinese sisters, plus four novices and six candidates from among Taiwanese Chinese. They operate a hospital, clinics, and kindergartens.

602 aborigines of the Bunun mountain tribe in Formosa were baptized into the Catholic Church on March 24. They live in the Taichung Prefecture, where there are now 2,880 Catholics, with hundreds more under instruction.

GENERAL NEWS

We have just seen a copy of a new English language weekly published in Peking, the Peking Review. This April 8 number has a translation of the People's Daily editorial on "Why the Kishi Government Blocks the China-Japan Trade Agreement," and other articles about economic progress in China. It has 24 pages 8 1/2 by 11 1/2 inches in size. One intriguing sectio is a list in true New Yorker style of what's on in entertainment in Peking. If any of our readers would like to see it they can subscribe through Imported Publications and Products, 4 West 16th Street, New York 11, N. Y., $4.00 for a half year (Great Britain - Central Books Ltd., 37 Grays Inn Road, London, W. C. 1 at 12/ for a half year). This price covers delivery by airma

The Mohammedans of Hupei Province had a conference December 25 to January 16 similar to the government-sponsored conferences that have been held by Protestants and Catholics. In this conference the principal problem was that of the integration of the Hui minority. Accor ing to the Paoting newspaper which reported the conference, some imams went so far as to say that freedom of religion was a fiction, and that life under the Communists was worse than it ha been under the Nationalists. However, before the end of the conference a number of the objec tors "admitted their errors, confessed their crimes and bowed their heads to the people."

Students and professors in Shanghai universities went on a "mural newspaper" spree on a night in February, posting on the walls of the city what is estimated at 700,000 mural newspape In regard to waste, one student criticism was that there were too many professors. Another liste the things there were too many of: mural newspapers, accusations, suggestions and activists. Another suggested that the greatest waste was of time.

Many universities are opening workshops and small factories in which students will be put to work half time, so as to keep them close to the life of the people. Dress-making, knitting, radio repairing, bookbinding and engraving are among the pursuits in which students will be en gaged.

All primary and secondary school teachers in China have been ordered to familiarize themselves with the new alphabet before school opens in the fall. In the meantime the nation radio is presenting a special program on the subject, many newspapers and magazines are print ing their names in both Chinese characters and in Latin letters, and the letters are also being added to the trademarks of important products. The Carrier Pigeon Catholic magazine in Shan hai has published the text of the Hail Mary in this form.

By the end of March, over eleven million hectares of land had been afforested as a part this year's program to afforest 20 million hectares, and as part of a ten year program to cover 100 million hectares of land with trees. The Yangtze River Valley afforestation program for Szechuan, Hupeh, Kiangsi, Anhwei and Kiangsu is said to be completed.

Rice acreage is also being vastly increased. The irrigation campaign has added many thousand hectares of paddy land, so that even the northeast province of Heilungkiang will have 400,000 hectares of rice fields. Also throughout Central China many thousands of hectares will be changed to double cropping, a method which they estimate yields 60% more than singl cropping.